NEW YORK HERALD. JAMES GORDON BENSETT.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BROADWAY TREATRE, Broadway-King CHARMING MIBLO'S GARDEN, Breadway-SCHOOLMASTER - DIVER

BOWNRY THEATRE, BOWERY-ININE ASSURANCE AND VARIET MODESTY-IN AND OUT OF PLACE-INDER FIGUR.

BURTON'S THEATER, Chambers street—Twenty Mix-WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway-PAULINE-CURIOUS

SAURA KRENE'S VARIETIES, Broadway-THE VIOLET

WOOD'S MINSTREL'S, 444 Broadway-Ermorias Pen-

SUCKLEY'S SUBLESQUE OPERA HOUSE, 599 Broad-W-Nigho Minerallay - Brayer and the Brast.

New York, Saturday, January 26, 1856.

Mails for Europe.

NEW YORK HERALD—EDITION FOR EUROPE. The mail steamship Hermann, Capt. Higgins, will leav is port to-day, at noon, for Southampton and Bremen

The European mails will close in this city at half-past tan o'clock this morning.

The HERALD (printed in English and French) will be published at nine o'clock in the merning. Single copies a wrappers, aixpence.

ns and advertisements for any edition of the New York Heraid will be received at the following

Lambon—Am. & European Express Co., 17 and 18 Cornhill.

Pants— do. de. 8 Place de la Bourse.
Lavauroot.— do. do. 7 Rumford street.

Lavauroot.—John Hunter, 12 Exchange street, East.

The contents of the European edition of the Heral will embrace the news received by mail and telegraph at the office during the previous week, and to the hour of

The News.

By telegraph from New Orleans we have a brief summary of two weeks later news from California Oregon and Nicaragua. With the exception of the fact that the gold mines yield more prolifically than ever, the intelligence from California is devoid of importance. More than a million in treasure will reach here during next week by the Aspenwall and San Juan steamers. There is nothing further res pecting the Indian war in Oregon. In Nicaragus everything is prosperous and orderly. General Walker's effective for e of Americans numbered be tween eight and nine hundred.

Yesterday was a dull day in the House of Repre sentatives. A motion to rescind the resolution pro hibiting debate was rejected, and three ballots for Speaker were had, without any change in the position of parties.

In the State Senate yesterday a memorial from citizens of Buffalo was presented, praying for the abolition of the Board of Commissioners of Emigration, and the appointment of three salaried officers to perform the functions of said Board. The Com sioners are in debt about one hundred thousand dollars, and intend applying to the Legislature to make good the deficit. The accounts of the Harbor Encroachment Committee have been rendered. The expenses of the committee amount to the trifling sum of \$14,518 34. In the Assembly a bill was in troduced to legalize the acts of the Board of Super visors of this city. This movement is probably made to sustain the action of Supervisors in choosing a permanent president of the Board, which act, in the opinion of the counsel of the Corporation, is illegal and void.

The trial of Mr. Joseph E. Ebling, Commissioner of Streets and Lamps, who is charged with bribery, was commenced in the Court of General Sessions yesterday. A full report of the case is given in to-day's paper.

Additional advices from Vera Cruz, dated 8th instant, state that the municipal government of the city of Mexico, which was inaugurated by Alvarez, had been dissolved, and a new set of officers and members a pointed. Senor Escalante, vicar apos-tolic of California, had been arrested as a "suspicious subject." Senors Pacheco, Lires, Tamer Lopez de Santa Anna, and Colonel Duminguez, has arrived in Vera Cruz as prisoners. The steamship Benjamin Franklin, the ship Lady Suffolk, and the bark Catherine Augusta, with a lot of old cannon were to be sold at Vera Cruz and Acapulco. Foreign money was permitted to circulate as usual. It was said that Santa Anna had separated from his wife.

Our Belize (Honduras) correspondent, writing or the 22d ultimo, reports an unusual dulness of trade mahogany low, wages depreciated, and a large amount of mortality amongst the whites, from cholera. England was riveting her rule more firmly on the colony. It has now been ordered that all yes sels shall be registered, and that no toreigner shall own a ship hoisting the British flag, unless he take the oath of allegiance to that government and become naturalized. Many persons had already done so. A vessel of the We t India squadron was in port, and her commander had caused some alarm by beating to arms in the night, and firing some broad sides for practice. Shipping business was more

Late accounts from the Plains state that som Capote Indians and a party of Mormons had had a fight, in which several of the latter were killed The Mormons were the aggressors.

We publish elsewhere a report of the testimony taken by the coroner of Rugeley, England, at an ad journed inquest held on the exhumed bodies of Mrs. and Mr. Palmer, the wife and brother of the Surgeon Palmer, now accused of making away with so many victims by poisoning. A chemical analy-sis of the contents shows that the body of Mrs. Palmer, although so long interred, was saturated with tartrate of antimony (tartar emesic), a solution of which was no doubt used by the murderer to produce the appearance of lingering disease. The magistrates of the place were also investigating charge against the Postmaster of the town, who is accused of a sort of complicity, or neglect of duty, in permitting Palmer to know of the chemist's letter from London. It is thought that Lord George Bentinck's last betting book is in the hands of the Port land family, and that it will be produced, and throw

some light on his transactions with Surgeon Palmer The Board of Councilmen last night adjourned for the term. Nothing of importance was done last night beyond concurrence with the Board of Alder men in adopting the tax levy, cutting off the appropriation of \$5,000 for contingencies in the Mayor's office. The Report of the Board will be

found in another column.

The sales of cotton yesterday reached about 800 a 1,000 bales. The market was from | a ic. easier since the receipt of the Africa's news, though price were not fully established. Middling uplands were quoted at about 94c. Flour was heavy at the pre vious day's quotations, with moderate sales. There continued to be a good demand for local and Eastern consumption, of medium grades of Southern and Southwestern brands. Among the sales were 1,500 bbls, of good Tennessee, at \$9 50, and St. Louis extra ranged from \$10 a \$11. Wheat was quiet. Tennessee red sold at \$1 95, and a small lot of choice Southern red at \$2 00. Corn was in good demand

for new, at full prices. Among the sales was a cargo

of Petigrew's North Carolina white, at 91c. Ryo

was at \$1 31. Pork was heavy, with small trans

actions at \$16 50. Sugars were firm, and coffee

steady, with sales of 1,300 bags Rio. Freights were

mactive, though without change in quotations. The

ice in the rivers and docks interfered very much

with lighterage and loading of vessels.

The Senate of Massachusetts yesterday adopted an amendment repealing the clause of the law of 1855 which confers upon jurors the right of judging of the constitutionality of any law. This moven has direct reference to the enforcement of the Pro hibitory Liquor law. During the year 1855 the were eighty prosecutions for violations of this law in Boston, and not one conviction, the jurors in every case deciding against its constitu temperance men look for an interpretatio from the Judges more in accordance with their

peculiar views.

The proceedings of the naval court martial at Philadelphia increase in interest from day to day. Yesterday the letter of the accused—Com. Ritchie to the Navy Department, in reply to that of Capt. Dupont, was received as evidence. We give it else

The Suspension of Diplomatic Relations with Nicaragus—The Position of the United States Covernment.

The public press for the past two months has been full of Nicaraguan affairs. From time to time very clear and lucid expositions of the state of political affairs in that republic have appeared in the New York journals. There still seems to be, however, in official quarters, a wilful blindness as to the real position of things, which obtuseness can only be explained by the supposition that our government has some private reasons for pursuing a course so utterly at variance with established precedents, and so prejudicial to the best interests of both countries. Let us briefly consider the racts as they stand:

First-There was an internal quarrel in Nicaragua in relation to the organic law of the State. One party, headed by Chamorro, occupied Granada, while another, under Castillon, held Leon. Both parties invited outside aid, and citizens of the United States bore arms under each banner. The party of Castillon, generally called the democratic party, surprised and conquered Granada. A treaty was then made by which the discordant elements were fused, and the bill of rights, as contained in the Constitution of 1836, was re-affirmed. Dog Patricio Rivas, who had previously held the same office, was named Supreme Director in the treaty, and he appointed his Cabinet, which is now composed entirely of native citizens of Nicaragus. The vanquished party took the other offices, and were charged with the administration of public justice. The government thus happily consolidated, was recognized by the priests, who have the same influence over the minds of the people in Catholic countries that the press has in England and the United States. Peace was once more established in the republic. Immigration began to flow towards the vernal Pacific slope. Trade raised its drooping head. Public confidence was restored. No one took up arms against the new government, because it was the result of a compromise with which all parties were satisfied. It is now apparently as firm as any of the Central or South American governments

Second-The Minister of the United States near the Republic of Nicaragua, finding that the government was firmly established, recognised it, according to diplomatic precedent. It is understood that he was censured by our government, and this assertion appears to be verified by two letters written by him, in which he ably defends the position he has taken. He still continues to exercise his functions at Gra-

Third-The Nicaraguan government accredited Col. Parker H. French as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary (Minister of the highest grade) to the government of the United States. This diplomat was also the bearer of an important treaty between the two countries, which was originated by the legitimist party, signed and sealed by its leaders, and approved and attested by the new democratic government. The government of the United States, through the Secretary of State, has de clined to receive Mr. French, "or any other person," at present, as the Minister of the Rivas government, on the ground, as stated by the Premier, that the citizens of Nicaragua have not freely expressed their approval of, or acquiescence in, the present condition of political affairs in that republic. The United States government also arrested Colonel French on a charge of setting on foot a hostile expedition against the country which he represents, but immediately afterwards liberated him and refused to try the case. He has not yet present ed his credentials, but remains in the United States. He is recognized by the people at large in his diplomatic office, and by the At torney General as entitled to the privileges of said office in a "very limited and qualified de-

gree."
Thus it will be seen that our diplomatic re lations with Nicaragua are suspended; our government having decided that there is no supreme government in that State. Certain persons assume to act as the representatives of the United States within the territory of Nicaragua, but they act without authority and are entitled to no consideration from the de facto government there. The American citizen in that State would have no one to appeal to in case his personal liberty was infringed, or in case his property was injured. The point to be settled is, what is the real duty of the United States government under these circumstances, and how far can it be sustained in the attitude in which it stands?

The question which is raised, in this position of affairs, is to be settled only by the common law of nations, as laid down by recognized au thorities. The United States early adopted the European law of nations, and has up to thi time acted according to the maxims laid down by its expounders-all of whom agree in saving that no government has any business with the internal affairs of another, and that the government which exists in fact must be recognized. Vattel, Wheaton, Grotius, and all the other great international lawyers, are unanimous on this point. The wisest of Ministers. Mazarin, promptly recognized Lockhart, the agent of Cromwell, and refused to see Charles the Second or his Minister, although the court of France was always favorable to the Stuarts, and a "very considerable number" of Englishmen did not "approve of or acquiesce in" the government of the Lord Protector. In another reign-although the French government aided a fugitive king-the representative of William the Third was duly received and honored. The English government received and protected the agents of the United Provinces when they rebelled against Spain. France recognized our independence in 1778, when the issue of the war was doubtful, and concluded two treaties of commerce and amity with us. As

early as 1793, Mr. Jefferson-then Secretary of

State-laid down the principle of international

law to be, that every Liate possesses power to change its government at will, and to transact its business through such agents as it thinks lit to employ. Any interference by another State to check the exercise of this right is impertinent and unjustifiable, and has once been a cause of war between France and England.

According to Mr. Marcy's rule, that a government cannot be recognized because no considerable number of its citizens have expressed their approval of, or acquiescence in it, all our Ministers and Consuls everywhere might be sent home; because, it does not appear that any considerable number of citizens of the United States approve of or acquiesce in the administration of Mr. Pierce. It may be acquiesced in to a very "limited and qualified degree" by a few persons engaged in the collection of the revenue.

When a point of international law (which is founded entirely on usage) is raised, it must, says Wheaton, be decided by the application of the greatest number of precedents in a certain direction. In the matter of Nicaragua all the precedents are in favor of the recognition of the present government. Let us see:-

France, since our political existence—les than a century-has had ten distinct governmenta. Some have lived only a few months: others have been maintained for several years. All of them have been promptly recognized by the United States, whether the will of the peo ple was consulted or not. Did the French people approve of the earlier acts of the first Napoleon? Did they desire the return of the Bourbons? No! It is an undeniable fact that the army was the potent instrument in setting up and pulling down these governments; and it is equally true in the matter of the restoration of the Bourbons, in the language of Mr. Marcy's letter to Mr. French, that "those who were chiefly instrumental in suspending or overthrowing the government of that State were not citizens belonging to it." Mr. Rush recognized, in 1848, the provisional government of Lamartine two days after it was set up; and, in 1851, when Louis Napoleon, without any expression of the people's will, struck his coup d'état, Mr. Rives, our Minister to France, was visited with the implied censure of his government, through Mr. Websterthen Secretary of State-and directed to recognise the de facto government at once. Perhaps Mr. Marcy thinkthat Nicaragua being a small and weak State, is not entitled to the same courtesy that the government was anxious to extend to pow erful France. If such is the case, we will direct his attention to a few precedents a little

nearer home. Mexico has been in existence as an independent State about forty years During that period thirty-eight persons have exercised supreme executive authority over it. Our gov ernment has not hesitated to recognise each of these persons; and in one case the United States connived at the entrance of a usurper. Can Mr. Marcy or any one else assert that the government of Santa Anna, in 1847, was not set up by persons not "citizens belonging to

The case of Ecuador is also a pertinent one In 1846, after General Flores had left the country, Diego Novoa was elected President by the voices of a convention called for the purpose. He was eminently popular. Some time after he took office, Novoa was informed that General Urbina was plotting against him. He did not put any faith in the statement, and appointed Urbina to the chief command of the army. In June, 1851, the President left Quito en route for Guayaquil; and on arriving at Latacunga, received a letter from Urbina, dated at Guayaquil, urging him to come to that place at once, as the prosperity of the country depended upon his presence there. Novos complied with the request; but, before he arrived, Urbina had stirred up the army to pronounce in his favor. Novoa was seized and sent out of the country by ship. Urbina declared himself President of Ecuador, and still holds that position. The new government was immediately recognized by the United States.

In the republic of Peru we shall find a state of things still more resembling those of Nicaragua. On the 20th December, 1850, José Rufino Echenique was elected President of Peru. His despotic administration made him unpopular, and a rebellion, headed by General Castilla, broke out in 1853. It was unsuccessful. In the winter of 1854 a number of North Americans arrived at Lima, attracted by the rumors of rich gold discoveries on the Ama zon. These men were invited by Castilla to join him against the regularly constituted authorities of the State, and they consented. In December, 1854, Castilla, thus strengthened, hazarded the decisive battle of La Palma. from the report of which we make a brief ex

The Segrados, a battalion composed of picked men, among whom was a party of Americans, led on the at-tack, and the opposing ranks went down like grass before their furious charge.

Echenique ran away, and Castilla immediate ly declared himself President. The Ministe of the United States recognized the government immediately. A new Minister from Peru handed his credentials to Mr. Marcy, was received with that suavity of demeanor which is so pleasant a feature in the character of that great statesman, and was the star of the next levee. Had not Castilla received the aid of the seventy Americans above mentioned. Echenique would have been President of Peru at this moment. The difference between Nicaragua and Peru seems only to have been in the number of men engaged. In fact, the Walker party in Granada have the advantage, because it is proved that "persons not citizens of Nicaragua" served on both sides.

There are multitudes of other examples of the same kind-including that of Texas, which was a very strong one-which bear upon this point. But we have cited a sufficient number for our present purpose.

Our deductions from the above facts, in which we are sustained by almost the entire American Congress, press, people, and a portion of the Cabinet, are as follows:-

That the present government of Nicaragua ought to be recognized-First. Because it is the only government now existing. No one pretending to set up any opposition to it, it follows that the people, at least, acquiesce in it. Common rumor-which is all the evidence we can have on the subject—asserts that they approve it. We have quoted the law to show that our government has no right to criticise the acts of the people of that State, or of their rulers. Second-It was created by a compromise between both parties, anxious for peace: and Mr. Marcy's favorite authority, (Vattel,) says it is the bounden duty of all governments to encourage one another in preserving and promoting peace at home and abroad. Third-Nicaragua is a free, sovereign, independent State, and as such has an undoubted right to regulate all its affairs, internal and external, and to employ such servants as it chooses. It may change its government every month, and send a new Minister every week if it thinks fit; and if our government desires to maintain amicable relations, it must receive these agents, or else withdraw its own Minister and Consuls, and leave our commerce to the mercy of an

insulted people. In this connection we might inquire what Mr. Wheeler is doing at Granada? Is there a government in Nicaragua, at all ? If so, is it not headed by Rivas? Are our diplomatic relations suspended? Does our Minister commu-nicate officially with the Rivas government? If he does, is it not a recognition, for all practical purposes, by the United States through its agent? If the Rivas administration is not the government of Nicaragua, why was not Mr. Wheeler recalled? And if Mr. Wheeler is not recalled, then he is excused, and then Mr. French should be received.

It has been urged by some foolish person that Mr. Marcy, the essence of political purity, declines to receive Mr. French on persons grounds. We thought that the principle of law in this matter was too widely known to be misunderstood. Mr. French is divested entirely of his individuality. He is here as the Nicaraguan government, and, figuratively, he is a portion of that country, sojourning here for the transaction of its business. For all that appertains to him personally in the matter, his name might as well be John Smith as Parker H. French. It was reserved for the genius of a Marcy to set aside this immutable principle of international law.

It may be urged that the government of Nicaragua has not been a sufficient length of time in existence to be firmly established. This we have shown, in the case of Mexico, to be an invalid objection. Mr. Marcy, however, may be of the school of an old casuist who thought a government could not be considered estab lished until it had existed a hundred years By the same rule, our government is only an experiment, and it is certain that no time can be fixed. The circumstances in Nicaragua are apparently more favorable to the permanency of the present government than they were in the United States when we were recognized by France.

There is still another reason why the Nica raguan government should be recognized; and it is a very important one. Our commercial interests there are daily becoming more extensive. Across the territory of that State a company of North American citizens are carrying thousands of passengers and millions of treasure. Hundreds of North American merchants have their shops in its cities, and the sails of North American ships whiten its harbors on two oceans. Diplomatic intercourse will facilitate these persons in their business ar rangements; and while we lend to a weak republic a helping hand, we are assisting our own citizens and opening new fields for the enterprise of our traders.

With all these facts pressed home to them who can wonder that the people of the United States call loudly for the recognition of the Nicaraguan government? Who is not surprised at the stupidity of the administrationif that can possibly be a matter of surprise at this late day-which shuts its ears to this call and closes its eyes to the precedents on file in its own archives? The case of Nicaragua is a climax to the stupid and blundering diplomacy of our Premier, and confirms us in our opinion, that though he may have been a fair village politician, he is utterly incapable of managing the foreign affairs of the nation. If the administration fears to do an act of justice and courtesy because it may be misunderstood abroad, it is time that the people should be made acquainted with the fact. We can excuse anything but cowardice and imbecility Mr. Marcy's assigned reasons for the rejection of Colonel French are not of the slightest validity. If he has any others, let us hear

PRESIDENT PIERCE'S COUP D'ETAT ON THE SPEAKERSHIP-THE KANSAS MESSAGE.-We pub lish to-day, from the Cabinet organ, in extense, the special message of the President to Congress on the Kausas controversy. We take it that this is the Executive coup d'état which was threatened a few days ago on the Speakership; and we may also consider it as a codicil to the annual message, on the the slavery question, for Scuthern capital at Cincinnati.

The special object of this message on the Speakership was, we suspect, to drive the antiadministration elements to the wall on this Kansas question, under the presumption that there are many half-way members among them standing out against Banks, who will find this message too hard a dose to swallow, and will straightway fall in upon Banks, as a choice of evils. How many of the Fuller men, as a last resort between the endorsement of this terriple message and the adoption of Banks, will choose the latter, remains to be seen. The first effect of this peculiar "State paper" has very naturally been to strengthen the union and the resolution of the Banks men; and the second effect will be the election of Banks. probably, or the inevitable prolongation of the squabble. At all events, the message has an swered the object of a tub to the whale, and goes very far to show that the President desires the election of Mr. Banks, if possible, without the direct co-operation of the democrats in his behalf. His Excellency, however, may fall short of the mark, for it is very likely the "South Americans," so called, will see through the trick and laugh at the decoy!

In the next place, this special message, as bid for Southern capital at Cincinnati, will be perfectly harmless. Southern men may like t-Southern mass meetings may eulogize it-Southern State conventions may praise the author of it as the true man for the crisis, but when they get to Cincinnati they will find that Mr. Pierce is too short by a foot for the active business of the campaign. Something more than the discharge of Reeder and the appointment of Shannon as Governor of Kansas will be required of the democratic nominee for 1856. He must be relieved in the very ontset of the dead weight of this administration. And yet Mr. Pierce is really in for it. Cushing will be the death of him. Read his message.

VERY FUNNY .- We see from one of our Virginia exchanges that eighteen yeoman citizens of New Jersey have invited Hon. John Minor Botts to stand for the Presidency, and that he has signified that if the people desire it Barkie is willin'."

COL. SHAFFNER AND THE LONDON TIMES .- In another column will be found a slashing rejoinder from Col Shaffner to the late unjustifiable and unbecoming attack made upon him by the London Times. It will be recollected that the original statements, which drew forth this philippic from our London contemporary, contained certain assertions of fact founded on Colonel Shaffner's personal observations in Russia. Most of those statements were, of course, highly unpalatable to the enemies of that country, because they contradicted mpressions industriously circulated by the English press with a view to mislead the public mind on the issues involved in the European contest. Had Col. Shaffner's narrative been of the prejudiced and unfounded character which the Times would wish to imply, the proper course would have been to expose its fallacies, by bringing the evidence of other travellers to bear on it. The truth would have been elicited by such a comparison, and the propagators of falsehood shamed. Unable, however, to meet argument by argument, or to reason calmly on a subject in which its passions are enlisted, the Times came out with an article against our countryman, as remarkable for its want of candor and honesty as for the execrably bad taste in which it was penned. As is usual with that paper when it has no case to make, it sought to avoid the issues raised by Col. Shaffner by overwhelming him with ridicule and abuse- a poor reply to statements seriously put forward, and which have been cor-

In his letter of to day Colonel Shaffner reiterates the assertions made in his former communications, and exposes the value of those glowing bulletins of victories which the English have been in the habit of putting forth since the commencement of the war. He proves that Russian trade and commerce, so far from having suffered by the blockade of the Allies. have, on the contrary, considerably increased. Besides this, an enormous impetus has been given by the war to the manufacturing industry of the empire, which promises, in a short time, to suffice for all the wants of its population. The feelings of the Russian people, so far from being despondent and averse to the continuance of the struggle, are, he says, universally bent upon sustaining the honor and territorial independence of the country. But one sentiment pervades them, from one extremity of the empire to the other, and that is an implicit faith in the sacredness of the cause for which they are fighting. The charges of cruelty brought against the Russian troops, he says, come with a very bad grace from s people whose system of warfare has always been marked by the most cruel atrocities. As a proof of this he cites the barbarous excesses committed by the British during their wars in India and in this country, and which were repeated under the most revolting circumstances at the capture of Kertch.

roborated, in many instances, by facts which

have since transpired.

We have stated enough to show that formidable as is his assailant, Col. Shaffner has plenty of Yankee pluck in him, and is not to be frightened from telling his mind by the "thunder" of the Times. He facetiously informs our cotemporary that it is his business to deal in that article, and that it is only wasting the electric current of its wit upon him when it thinks to scare him by weak flashes like that of its rate article. The allusion may perhaps serve to remind the Times of a fact which it seems to have forgotten. Col. Shaffner occupies a prominent position at the head of some of our largest enterprises, and however much it may suit our contemporary to throw discredit on the evidence of a man of his standing. it will fail in its purpose here. He has successfully defended himself against the charge of having any interested motive in the statements which he has published in reference to Russia; and until it can be shown to the American public that he has gone out of his way to pervert facts, they will be disposed to accord to them greater credit than to the prejudiced and oft disproved assertions of English

Wallack's Cheatre-"The Pet of the Public." A comedictia under the above tille was played at this house last night for the first time here. It is a French piece, first translated by Mr. Edward Stirling for Miss Rebecca Isancs, a Hebrew vocalist, who is chiefly distinguished for having sustained a series of guerilla operation skirmishes in the minor London theatres during the past three years. The "Pet" is a young actress who has atracted the attentions of a lady killer, who boasts that he has received tokens of her admiration. The lealousy f the "Pet's" husband is awakened by the braggadoo of this person, and the wife, to quiet it, disguises hersel in various odd costumes, and nearly frightens her ad mirer out of his wits. He makes an apology, the husband is satisfied, and everything is settled amicably.

The weight of this piece falls upon the shoulders of Miss Hodson, who enacts the part of the young wo-man who is supposed to be the "Pet of the Public." The whole thing is a mere trifle—perhaps beneath criticism, but Miss Hodson did not succeed with t. She is not a clever actress, and seems to be unfortunate in being cast for parts which require a great deal of stage tact and seit-possession. She does not possess either of these qualities. Indeed, she seems positively distraite. She sang three songs effectively, but there seemed to be a dispute between the vocalist and the eader of the band as to the key and the time. Una ninity on these points is very desirable, and we hope that the music of this piece will have another reheareal. The sketch-for it is nothing more-seems to have been done originally for the purpose of showing off the exceedingly absurd, and the dialogue the veriest commonplace. The songs made it a respectable success, and it will be done sgain this evening. The house was about two thirds filled

FASHIONARIE INTELLIGENCE .- A splendid bal costume wa riven by a wealthy merchant of this city, at his paintist esidence, Cinton street, Brooklyn, on Thursday night. Iwo hundred guests were invited, and a special invitation was extended to the children of the guests. Young America accordingly indulged in Terpsichorean feats from seven till ten in the evening, when the middled aged came on the scene and polked, supped, flirted, waltred, mazourked and redowned, until four in the morning. The affair was very creditable and somewhat costly. The fashions. ble world is in a high state of excitement just now, and brows its money about with the most reckless pro-

NOVEL AND INTERESTING DESCOURSE .- Mr. F. W. Evans, one of the elders at the Shaker settlement at Lebanon, intends to preach a discourse on the manners, customs, and tenets f his peculiar people, at the Tabernacle, next Thursday evening. Mr. Evans is a man of much ability, and his discourse will undoubtedly be very interesting.

BROADWAY THEATRE,-The new cast for "King Charm ing," which includes Mrs. Blake and Mrs. Buckland, has proved to be a great improvement, and has dra on full houses. The piece will be done this evening, with the "Sea of Ice." Mr. J. W. Wallack, Jr., commences an engagement next week, playing in a new drama called Leon, or the Iren Mask.

The bark AMELIA, which sailed from Port au Prince on the 2d of December last, has not yet arrived. Great fears are entertained for her safety, being fifty-five days since she sailed. Secretary Dobbin has it in contemplation to send the steamer Vixen in search of her, which, we think, ought to be done forthwith.

TEBLATEST NEWS. BY MAGNETIC AND PRINTING TELEGRAPHS. News from California. ABRIVAL OF THE DANIEL WESSTER AT NEW OR-LEANS—A MILLION DOLLARS EN BOUTE FOR NEW YORK—NEWS FROM OREGON AND NICARAGUA, ETC. NEW ORLHANS, Jan. 25, 1856.

aragua on the 19 h inst., has arrived at this port. She brings dates from San Francisco to the 5th inst.

The steamship Star of the West had sailed from San
Juan for New York with 850 passengers and \$600,000 in

The United States mail steamer Golden Gate left San Francisco January 5, with five hundred passengers and The California news is generally unimportant

A severe shock of earthquake was experienced at San The trial of Corey for the murder Gen. Richardson was

in progress.

Attachments had been issued against Lucien Hermann, an extensive money agent at San Francisco, for nearly

Josh. Silsbee, the Yarkee comedian, died at San Francisco on the 22d of De ember.

The Sacramento Valley Railroad had been opened a

distance of twenty-two miles.

The news from the mines is of an encouraging nature, and new rich diggings have been discovered on the Ar

rican river.

The San Francisco markets were dull—the demand-

from the interior being light. In flour and grain the transactions were to a limited extent. The arrivals at San Francisco from Atlantic ports com-

prised the ships Matchless, Wild Rover, Winged Arrow and Flying Fish from Bost n; the Golden West, Midnight and Morning Star from New York; and the Wm. Sturges from In Northern California Indian depredations still con

George M. Chase, United States Consul at Labring, OREGON. Oregon dates are to the 20th of December. Nothing

had been heard of Col. Kinney's party, which had left to attack Fort Walls Walls, which was in possession of the NICAR AGUA. From Nicaragua we learn that Col. Walker was receiv-

ing accessions by every steamer, and his effective force of Americans was about eight hundred and fifty men. From Washington.

THE PRESIDENT'S KANSAS MESSAGE—REEDER'S FORTHCOMING REPLY—THE SPEAKERSHIP. Washington, Jan. 25, 1856.
The message of the President on the Kansas imbroglio

considered here, in official circles, as another bid for the Southern vote. A letter from Gov. Reeder will shortly make its appearance, answering Gen. Pier e's special message. There is fun ahead. Where is he Scarlet Letter, in which the President offered in (Reeder) a foreign mission, provided he would resign the Governorship of Kansas? The folly of nominating Mr. Orr, and placing him up on

Richardson's platform, is palpable among the democr ts.

They now see the mistake. Another attempt will be made to morrow to adopt the plurality rule. The South Americans have all gone back to Fuller, and they will stick to him until something turns up. ELECTION OF THE HON, JEFFERSON DAVIS TO THE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25, 1858.

The Star of this evening says a despatch from Jackson, the United States Senate, by a majority of fifty-eight.

THIRTY-FOUR OR CONGRESS.

House of Representatives.

An ineffectual effort was made to repeal the resolution excluding all debate during the present week, or until the election of Speaker. The House then proceeded to vote, and three ballots were taken, the last resulting as follows:—

127m BALLOT.

Banks. 14 orr. 64
Fuller. 25 Scattering. 12
Necessary for a choice.98.
Adjourned.

From the State Capital.

NO LEGISLATION WORTHY OF NOTE—CALMNESS IN
BOTH HOUSES—ADJOURNMENT OVER TO MONDAY ALBANY, Jan. 25, 1856.

discussing the manner of disposing of the Governor's Message. Mr. Cole, (repub.,) wanted the message taken that if thus disposed of, the prohibitory portion should be referred to the same se ect committee, having Mr. Glover's repeal law in charge. This was strongly opposed by Mr. Foot and Mr. Wateman.
Mr. Prescott, (K. N.,) took the floor in favor of Palley's proposition, which is a strong indication that

the democrats and Americans will fuse, and administer a server rebute to his robioticry Excellency. The section in the message, reflecting upon the judiciary of the city of New York, is universally regarded as highly insulting to those gentiemen: and should the House refer this question as proposed by Mr. Bally, it will be the administering of a rebuke which has never been done on any similar occasion.

The anxiety manifested by the whigs to take the Message out of committee, indicates their inability to defend his excellency.

m. Euganne failed in securing his travelling com-nittee to examine all the insurance companies during the next summer.

Both houses adjourned over until Monday evening, which really means Tuesday morning, thus coasuming one month of the session.

NEW YORK LEGISLATURE.

Senate. ALRANY, Jan. 25, 1856. ALBANY, Jan. 25, 1856.

THE COMMISSIONERS OF EMIGRATION.

Mr. WADSWORTH presented a memorial from the city of Buffalo, asking for the extinction of the present Roard of Commissioners of Emigration, and the appointment in their place of three salaried Commissioners. Referred to a select commission.

a select committee.

HABOR ENCROACHMENTS.

Mr. BROOKS presented a communication from the New York Harbor Encroachment Committee, in relation to expenses incurred by them, the total amount of which is \$14,518 34.

is \$14,018 34.

BILLS PASSED.

For the relief of the Lumbermen's Bridge Company.

To amend the act incorporating the Pacific Mail Steam
ship Company.

Adjourned till Monday.

Assembly.

REPORTS, MTC.

The Senate bill to secure the faithful expenditure of charitable funds in the first Senate district was favorably reported on.

The annual statements of the Superintendents of Banking and Public Instruction Departments were received.

Mr. FRESCOTT gave notice of a bill to amend the General Insurance Law. BILLS INTRODUCED.

To extend the charter of the Mouroe County Insurance

Company.

By Mr. Williams, to incorporate the New York Home Missionary Society of the M. E. church.

By Mr. Gray, to facilitate the assessment and collection of taxe.

Ey Mr. Dixon, to legalize the acts of the New York.

Supervisors.

A debate was had on the Governor's message.

Mr. DUCANER called up his resolution appointing a joint committee to inquire into the affairs of insurance companies. Laid on the table.

Adjourned till Monday afternoon.

The Naval Court Martial at Philadelphia PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 25, 1856.

The Court assembled this morning at the usual hour, and after the reading of the record, the Judge Advocate asked the accused whether any witnesses would be called by him. The counsel, Mr. Cooper, then obtained per-mission to read the following letter of Com. Ritchie, ad-ressed to the Secretary of the Navy, on being fornished.

with a copy of the charge made to the Department by

with a copy of the charge made to the Department by Capt. Dupont:

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 20, 1835.

To the Hon. Jakes C. Dobbin, Secretary of the Navy:—

Sin—I have just now received the communication with which you have honored me, with the letter of Captain Samuel F. Dupont, therewith encosed.

For the opportunity you have afforded me of seeing the communication respecting me, addressed to the Department by Captain Dupont, I am protoundly grateful, and in anyming I may have said, I beg that the honorable Secretary will be assured that I meditated no effence against the rules of the service, nor any discopered towards the Department.

To attempt the evade the truth by denying that I applied certain epithes to Captain Dupont, drawn from me by great provocation, would be unworthy the character of an American officer and gentleman. But white I admit that such epithets were used, positively deny that they were addressed to Captain Dupont either as an officer of the navy or as a member of the late Retiring Roard.

It was in a personal controversy, in regard to his conduct as a man, and not as an officer, that these epithets were provoked on his part and applied on mine, and condered it, and stiff consider it, a matter between individuals, and of which the Department would take no cognizance inammen as it had no reference to the service or to the conduct of one or other of the parties as officers, and so I think the Department would view it, if acquainted with the true origin and character or the controversy. But as it reterred to a matter of private grievance, I will not trouble the Department by a detail(of it. Hoping that this explanation may prove satisfactory, I beg leave to subscribe myself, with great respect, Your obedient servant.

The Judge Advocate having brought up the record of